

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its readers bearing on current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer in real name, and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

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SCRANTON, JULY 15, 1901.

Daily the truth grows clearer that strikes don't pay.

Strikers, Workers and the Law.

PUBLICATION through court proceedings of the correspondence which lately passed between the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western company and Recorder Connell relative to police protection for non-union men should serve to make clear the law in such cases.

Every man has a legal right to work or not to work, but no man has a right to interfere with a worker so long as that worker is attending quietly to his own affairs. The worker can be persuaded to become a striker, if approached without trespass and converted without intimidation; but use of force or threats of unwelcome importunity is unlawful.

The police are not designed to redress individual grievances. Their mission is to protect the public peace. That being true, before the police power can justifiably be used extraordinarily, there must be evidence that the public peace is endangered beyond the ability of ordinary measures to safeguard it.

An overt act of lawlessness by a group of policemen sufficient to quell the disorder and arrest the lawbreaker; and no administration of city affairs would be true to its oath of office that failed to enforce the law and preserve the general peace; but it is not reasonable to expect that in times of comparatively little friction the city shall provide a policeman to serve as a bodyguard for every man employed in its industries.

On the other hand, the court, by issue of injunction, sets forth plainly what the law forbids to be done in way of interference by men on strike with men at work and serves due notice. Men who ignore or disobey such an order of court do so at their own hazard and cannot claim lack of knowledge as to what the law permits and bans.

Byran may have no future but all must admit he has had a vociferous past.

Superintendent Brooks' Report.

AS STATED in The Tribune not long ago, Philadelphia's board of education decided during the spring of the present year to give to the principals of the public schools that city the administration of a new system of promotion from grade to grade.

This system consisted in promotion without passing an examination of such pupils as the principals were satisfied would fully sustain themselves in the next higher grade. The other pupils were at liberty to present themselves for a written examination of the usual character. As it was not until a few weeks before the close of the school year that this was decided upon, there had not been introduced the system of the Brooklyn schools, of the teachers' monthly averages, which has been for some years productive of eminently satisfactory results.

On Tuesday, July 9, Superintendent Brooks submitted to the Philadelphia board of education his report on the working of the new rule for exemptions from examination. He says:

"The new rule has been as satisfactory as anticipated. The large majority of principals exercised great care in making out their lists of exempted pupils, thus justifying the confidence placed in them by the board in the adoption of the new rule. It is especially notable that the principals of the schools who in previous years had the best records in the examination of their pupils for promotion to the higher schools were most conservative in their recommendations for exemptions. This action of principals is worthy of commendation, as it is not only adds strength to the rule, but is a guaranty that the pupils admitted into the higher schools will be found qualified for their work."

"The total number of pupils enrolled in the eighth grade on June 1 last was 3,473. The number of pupils recommended for promotion without examination was 1,911, or 55 per cent. of the enrollment. The number of pupils who presented themselves for examination was 1,578, or 45 per cent. of the enrollment. Of these 493, or 31 per cent. made the required averages, making the total number admitted by exemption and examination 2,393, or 69 per cent. of the enrollment. In 1899, under the examination rule, 403 per cent. of the pupils enrolled on June 1 made the required average; and in 1900 60 per cent. of the number enrolled June 1 made the average for admission."

"The Philadelphia experiment will probably result in an adoption at no distant day of the method of promotion by monthly and term averages in all cases."

Harvard university's Summer School has a large number of Cuban and Porto Rican teachers in attendance upon it, although not so large a contingent as

were there last year, given free transportation by this government. This yearly influx of the educators of the young in those two islands is among the most promising of events for the future of their people.

Seven of the best fighting ships contemplated in our naval plans, that were to be completed more than two years ago, have not yet been begun. Congress at its next session should apply a prod.

Nip It.

COMPLAINT is again heard at the Coney Island trimmings of Nay Aug park. Last year one merry-go-round, discouraged monotonous music during most of the hours of the week, and in the effort to get it to give its vociferousness a rest on Sundays the fear was expressed that unless vigilance was asserted by public opinion the multiplication of objectionable features.

This fear is being realized. Instead of one calliope near the Mulberry street entrance there are now two, and an accessories of the new one there are a phonograph, games of chance, and almost every other attribute of Coney Island except the megaphone and halloo.

Attracted by this bedlam of racket, disorderly characters nightly disturb the peace of those who reside in the vicinity and a fall in property values is inevitable unless this form of directed enterprise is speedily checked.

We know of no other city in the country which permits such annoyances in the midst of residence sections. Orderly refreshment booths and quiet play mechanisms are a common and welcome feature of parks everywhere; but it is evident that Scranton is trying to institute a new fashion combining the characteristics of the circus side-show with the fakes and frights of a modern Midway. It is time this fashion was nipped in the bud.

Late returns leave little doubt that General Otis was a misfit in the Philippines.

Bad Signs.

BECAUSE the management of the American Sheet Steel, American Steel Hoop and American Tin Plate companies would not agree to an ultimatum by Theodore J. Shaffer, president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin workers, presented defiantly in the course of a conference meant to be amicable and conciliatory, demanding that it, in effect, compel all its non-union employees to join the union, a general strike has been ordered affecting 41,000 men who are members of Shaffer's union and 90,000 men who cannot work while the other workmen are striking. The threat made by Shaffer is that every plant of the United States Steel corporation will be forced into idleness if he can effect it.

In Paterson a number of strikers who had been assaulting those who took the places they had left and who had been enjoined by court from continuing such unlawful conduct refused to obey the order of court and were thereupon arrested and made to take a heavy penalty. As a token of resentment, threats are now being made of a general strike in Paterson's silk mills.

This spirit among many leaders of labor is the spirit of mischief, which bodes as little good for the workingmen in whose nominal behalf it is asserted as it bodes for the community in general. It is labor's legal right, if no contract prevents, to strike when and as often as it pleases; but it is the moral duty of all citizens to be industrious, peaceful and well-disposed toward their fellow-men; and those who are quarrelsome, mutinous and unreasonable are bound, sooner or later, to get into serious trouble—a plight chargeable only to themselves.

Another effort is to be made by Democratic congressmen to displace Mr. Richardson as minority leader. Is the game worth the candle?

Better Outlook for Congress.

THE TRIBUNE is glad after having given the purport of apparently authoritative dispatches from Washington to the effect that the United States government had listened to Chile to the extent of excluding "present matters of dispute" from the arbitration discussions of the Pan-American congress—to find that this is not the case. The "tentative programme" has now been published with "arbitration" down in the first place thereof, without limit, or qualification. The congress itself is to decide whether or not there shall be any. The Washington authorities are also evidently very hopeful that when the time for the congress actually arrives, all of the South American republics will have decided to be the part of wisdom to be there represented and take their part in shaping conclusions. For her own sake, it is now thought, that Chile will send its delegates. This expectation, it is profoundly to be hoped, may be realized.

A vacancy in one of the United States judgeships in New York having occurred, there has been notable spontaneity in the suggestion that Charles A. Gardner, whose brilliant brief in the insular cases did much to save the government's cause, would be the right man for the place. With due respect to Mr. Gardner, we dissent. Any judicial position for him short of a seat on the federal supreme bench would involve a waste of good material. He would be more useful in the freedom of the bar.

The importance of the fact that the Brazilian aeronaut, M. Santos-Dumont, has successfully steered a navigable balloon for a short distance in calm weather can easily be exaggerated. The feat involves nothing new and nothing decisive. Safe and regular travel through the air is still a long way off.

Having had all the honors of a general public indorsement for mayor of Buffalo, without any of the cares of office, that enterprising former Scrantonian, Colonel E. H. Butler, chief of the Buffalo Evening News, was wisely

decided to keep out of the political arena and to continue an undivided attention to journalism. There was exceptional unanimity and heartiness in the demand for Mr. Butler's nomination, but he made the wiser choice.

While in the last decade our total population increased 21 per cent., the population of our cities increased 27 per cent. Nebraska is the only state in which the combined population of the cities decreased. No wonder Nebraska has Populist spasms.

Some Sights in the Machinery Building.

THERE is one thing about Buffalo that I don't like. You wouldn't like it yourself. It's the bicycle ordinance, or rather the lack of it. The streets aren't as well lighted as ours, of course; not where there are as many lights to the square inch as in Scranton; but that is not the worst of it. It is the bicycles, lighted. Nobody makes them carry lights, so they don't. After you have been run over twice and scared to death by a ghostly wheel several more times, you begin to feel vexed with the laxity of discipline in Buffalo. Sometimes the street lights all go out, and then your condition is pitiable indeed. If you get off a brilliantly lighted car with the serene and laudable intention of going peacefully to your temporary domicile, it is a shock to your nerves to find yourself attempting to clamber up the rear wheel of a bicycle, a feat which you have never learned, or to hear two sharp whistles or bells as the riders dash past on either side, while you dance frantically up and down in bewilderment and terror. Neither automobile nor bicycle seem to be compelled to carry lamps, and as a result life in Buffalo after dark is a little exciting. It would seem that with all that illuminating out at the exposition grounds, an acetylene plant, too, included in the outfit, they might have a few battery bicycle lamps.

There is one thing I mustn't forget to mention. Unless you happen to be a millionaire, you will find a camera to be a greater luxury than dining in All Starburg. I have only heard of one man who has managed to smuggle a camera into the exposition grounds. He was a Scranton man and about the last person imaginable who would try to bluff the sharp-eyed officials. The truth was, he didn't try at all. He had a camera in his pocket, never attempting to conceal it, and they never troubled him for a fee. Most of the camera fiends are observed labeled with a large and showy ticket giving their license number. The Scranton man had miraculously good luck, to attract attention by the absence of his number. It costs a half dollar to carry in the smallest, meekest, most unobtrusive little kodak, and the price goes up out of all proportion to the size of the camera. If you undertake to use a tripod, they charge you \$200 for its admission. This makes art rather expensive. It is cheaper to buy photographs of the views you want from the concessionaires. Then you run no risks of broken plates or smoke films—and you can always assure your friends that you took them with the same. That seems to be the custom of anybody who ever was suspected of making a snap shot of anything under the sun.

The Machinery and Transportation building may not be as attractive as the Midway, but it probably has as many possibilities for education. Of course, Scranton people are after education. They may not be so much interested in all the wheels that go round, but they would like the automobile, bicycles. I don't really see how anybody can be happy, either here or hereafter, without an automobile. Of course, those vehicles do sometimes turn zomersaults; but they are about as reliable as most things in this world, and they are so nice to have, even if they do make the entire household smell as if it had just struck oil. There are some wonderful automobiles at the exposition. They are suited to every purpose from the cradle to the grave, or rather from the child's playground to the hearse. Like dimities and madras shirt waists, they come in all colors.

It is only necessary to walk through this building to realize how utterly changed is the picture occupied by the bicycle today. When the World's Fair was held it did seem that acres of space was given up to the bicycle industries. Now comparatively few are exhibited. It is as great a problem to decide what has become of all the bicycles which were in use two or three years ago as to discover where all the pins and needles go. There must be a lot of them in attics and basements.

Women, as a rule, don't pause long at the machinery booths. They are noisy things—these machinery exhibits—and prevent one from imparting information to one's friends about important things. There is one exhibit, however, that is rather sure to arrest feminine attention. It has a staring big card, which asks candidly, "Is your belt too tight?" As it usually is in these days of elongated waists, some embarrassment is naturally felt at the blunt inquiry. While it also deals with pulleys, it means another sort of belt, however. This interesting exhibit shows practical workings in the power plant and is the "Cling-Surface" Manufacturing company's booth fitted up with motors and belts. The belts are treated with some sort of a tangletooth thing—only they don't call it that, and they don't tell what it is made of—which prevents them from slipping. At any rate, it allows a loose belt and causes no friction, thus saving a large percentage of expense in wear. The exhibit is in charge of Mr. Hopper, a Cornell man and a friend of Mr. Miles T. Hurd. It is being used in many of the greatest shops in the world, and is found at one or two plants in Scranton.

LITERARY NOTES.

The three hundredth number of Appleton's Town and Country Library, "The Seal of Sicily," by A. R. Conder, appears with a handsome cover in color. The tri-centennial issue directs attention again to the fact that no similar American library of fiction has had the length of life and the scope which has characterized Appleton's Town and Country Library. Through this literary library like Hall Caine, Edna Lyall, Maxwell Gray, Ellen Thompson Fowler, S. Lovett Young, Charles Whittier, Egerton Castle, Juan Valera, Beatrice Whittier, H. Bennett, Robert Barr, John M. Hamilton, Ada Cambridge, Guy Boothby, J. A. Alpher, Allen Baine, Bernard Capet, T. Gillon and C.

C. H. Hottel was introduced to American readers, and Clark Russell, Grant Allen, W. E. Norris, Thomas A. Janvier, Justin McCarthy, Louis Malet, Richard Malcolm Johnston, Victor Cherville, Mrs. F. A. Steel, George Gissing and F. F. Moore are among others who have been well represented in a series which has been pronounced the best library of fiction ever undertaken in America, and the most successful series of its kind. The discovery and development of new authors, who have, later, risen up exceptional prominence.

A new idea in primary instruction is embodied in "Dorothy's Drawing Lessons," by Edward Hall, published by Robert H. Ingersoll & Brother. This is a book of nursery verses illustrated by the Hall process. Each page contains a number of printed subjects which are developed by passing a pencil underneath, when an illustration appears. This book entertains while it instructs children whose little minds can more readily grasp tuition when not forced by arduous study. Lively page is educational and at the same time a delightful surprise, making on a child a lasting impression of what parents would have it know.

One of the last literary undertakings of the late Sir Walter Besant was the completion of a popular work for which he had special qualifications, "The Story of King Alfred." The American edition has been secured by D. Appleton & Co., and the book will be published by them in July or August. Its intrinsic interest and value, and its timeliness in view of the approaching anniversary, will make it secure for the work an exceptional popularity.

The Appleton announce a rich subscription edition of the works of Dr. A. Conan Doyle and Anthony Hope Hawkins. In the case of Dr. Doyle the set will number twelve volumes, and in that of Mr. Hawkins thirteen; both sets to be increased as new titles are written. Each volume will be embellished with finely executed photographs. The sets, it is said, will be prepared with every device that will combine sumptuousness and good taste.

The July World, with its ninety-three fine illustrations of the Pan-American exposition is out of print. The publishers simply couldn't keep pace with the demand.

To Wage Earners and Others of Moderate Income.

Do not spend your money foolishly because you have so little of it, but save what you can from month to month and invest it in something that will multiply many fold. The millionaires of this section were laboring men a generation ago and they pursued this course while most of their contemporaries blew it all in. The prudent ones saw that fuel was a good thing, that the world had to have it, and they bought coal land, a little at a time as they could spare it, and they made themselves rich, and their families live and well live in the greatest comfort, while the descendants of their imprudent comrades are laboring as their fathers did—for days wages.

Keep this object lesson in mind. The opportunities of that earlier time were in coal, today greater opportunities exist in oil, which is fuel in a more concrete form and is rapidly supplanting coal because it is easier and cheaper to mine and handle, and its besides being a more economic fuel for all large consumers, profitable for a hundred other uses. The oil of California is furnishing that state with cheap fuel, for the lack of which her progress has been woefully retarded. The entire Pacific coast will consume oil as a fuel, so that the demand upon the oil fields of California is unlimited. California oil refiners will hold the markets of the far East and of the west coast of South America. It is plain to be seen that the oil fields of California will be the source of incalculable wealth, far beyond what the coal mines of Pennsylvania have been in the past.

Each thoughtful man can see that the thing to do now to make money is to buy the shares of conservative, reputable managed oil companies having large holdings of undoubted oil lands secured at low prices, and only requiring development to become the source of enormous revenues for shareholders.

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ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 15.

After August 15 no more new contestants will be received in

The Tribune's

EDUCATIONAL CONTEST

This action is taken for the purpose of protecting legitimate contestants and preventing the possibility of any speculator from entering the last day or two and purchasing a \$1,000 scholarship by presenting the names of his friends as new subscribers and paying for them himself. While nothing of this sort was attempted last year, the close of the contest demonstrated that it would have taken much less than \$1,000 to have purchased the first special reward, as the winning contestant had only secured for The Tribune less than \$400 in new subscriptions. The Tribune desires to protect the contestants that are working so nobly for it and will use its best endeavor to have every feature of the contest perfectly fair, and it wishes it distinctly understood that the rewards offered are in no sense for sale, but will positively go to the contestants who secure the largest number of points, which will be credited only for new and legitimate subscribers.

The Special Rewards:

Scholarship in Lafayette College.....\$1,000

Scholarship in Swarthmore College..... 1,000

Scholarship in Stroudsburg Normal School 675

Three Scholarships in Scranton Business College, \$60 Each..... 180

Two Scholarships in Scranton Conservatory of Music, \$75 Each..... 150

\$3,005

Each contestant failing to secure one of these special rewards will be given ten (10) per cent. of all the money he or she turns in to The Tribune, to assist in paying this expense.

N. B.—The first two scholarships do not include meals, but the contestants securing these will be given ten (10) per cent. of all the money he or she turns in to The Tribune, to assist in paying this expense.

There are seven weeks yet of the contest and it is not too late for any energetic young man or woman to enter. Some of last year's winners were only in three or four weeks.

Send a postal to The Tribune for full particulars, including handsomely illustrated booklet. Address,

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